



MassDEPNEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

June 2, 2017

CONTACT:

Ed Coletta 617-292-5737

MassDEP Delivers Emergency Response Trailer to Auburn

State Program Provides Community with Equipment to Enhance Oil Spill Response

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) delivered yesterday an emergency spill response trailer to the Town of Auburn to assist in the event of spills of oil or other hazardous materials that may pose a risk to freshwater resources. The trailer contains crucial spill response equipment including a containment boom, anchoring systems and absorbent pads. MassDEP has delivered 95 similar spill trailers to inland and coastal communities across the Commonwealth.

“Spill trailers equip communities with the emergency equipment necessary to help minimize the impact of oil spills,” **said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton.**

“The Baker-Polito Administration is committed to ensuring municipalities have the tools needed to protect their natural resources, public health and local economies from the harmful effects of hazardous material spills.”

The freshwater response trailer is 16 feet long by eight feet wide and is divided into two storage compartments containing 800 feet of containment boom and 200 feet of absorbent boom; oil sorbent pads; speedy dry; inflatable drain bladders; anchor line and chains; buoys; tools; and safety equipment that includes life preservers, lights, boots, gloves, caution tape and a first-aid kit.

“Our partner communities need to have the capability to quickly respond should a spill occur in a local water body,” **said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.** “Auburn now joins 95 other communities across the Commonwealth in receiving these response trailers to help when needed.”

In addition to emergency response trailers, MassDEP will provide training classes to the Auburn Fire Department and first responders in the coming months as part of an effort to ensure responders are prepared to safely and efficiently use the equipment in the spill response trailers should an oil spill or other hazardous materials incident occur.



MassDEPNEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

“We are excited to house the emergency spill response trailer at the Auburn Fire Rescue Department headquarters,” said **Auburn Town Manager Julie A. Jacobson**. “The equipment will enhance the town’s efforts to contain oil spills and improve our response time to HazMat incidents, which is critical to containing most spills.”

Through the program, MassDEP has deployed 13 freshwater response trailers to inland communities, and delivered 83 similar spill trailers for use in coastal communities. MassDEP’s Marine Oil Spill Prevention and Response Program has also trained nearly 1,200 local responders in 48 exercises, which include on-water deployment of containment boom and other equipment from the spill trailers.

Since the program began, numerous response trailers have been utilized to address oil spills in communities that have included Aquinnah, Barnstable, Falmouth, Fall River, Gloucester, Lowell, Marshfield, Nantucket, New Bedford, Newburyport and Plymouth.

More information on MassDEP’s oil spill response trailer program, can be found:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/massdep/cleanup/marine/oil-spill-training-and-equipment-resources.html>



MassDEP delivered an oil spill response trailer to the Town of Auburn for use when a spill impacts local water resources. Shown with the trailer are MassDEP Emergency Response Chief Kevin Daoust (left) and Auburn Fire Chief Stephen Coleman.



MassDEPNEWS

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resources.

###